

From: Ronald E Hostetler
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/21/02 6:50am
Subject: Antitrust Settlement in MicroSoft vs. Government

I have a number of comments:

1. The major problem with this case appears to be the apparent lack of knowledge of government prosecutors and judges and the lack of adequate legislation creating standards for the computer industry.
2. If you want to land possibly the fatal blow to Apple Computer, the proposed settle may do it, convert more schools over to the PC Windows environment. Apple Computers are still the leading machines for Graphic Design Applications and schools. The proposed settlement eats away at an Apple Computer market.
2. A great deal of legislation is need for the regulating businesses in our capitalistic system and protect employee assets and jobs.
3. The "rubber stamping" of mergers within the USA and purchase of USA firms by foreign companies to gain full access to our markets is putting thousands of people out of work and capping retirement values.
4. Legislature is needed before settling the Microsoft case. Loading Microsoft software products search out and make inoperative competitors software especially web browsers. These practices need to be stopped. The consumer should have the choice.
5. Microsoft, I'm told, is planning further monopolistic practices. The windows operating systems in the future, will require pass word changes every year that you will rely on Microsoft to provide. You won't buy the software, but will pay a rental fee; then yearly lease payments and up-date down loads from the internet.

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